

What programs are available?

NCR Shipboard runs educational trips on board a traditional Chesapeake Bay workboat. Students participate in hands-on learning activities while navigating our local rivers. Please contact our [office](#) to learn more about our program offerings.

What will the students do on a boat trip?

On the boat, students will spend the majority of their time rotating through a number of hands-on stations that teach them about the local ecosystem and seamanship. Stations include, but are not limited to, trawl net fishing, bivalve dissection, aquatic life identification, plankton sampling, navigation, water quality testing, marine biodegradation, and buoyancy. In addition, each student will have a chance to drive the boat! Two experienced educators and the ship's captain lead the activities.

What are the times are available?

We generally run education programs Monday-Friday during Spring, Summer, and Fall from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, however we will make every attempt to work with your schedule. Trips are offered for a half-day (2.5 hours) or full day (5 hours).

How many chaperones do I need to bring?

We require two adult chaperones for each trip. Chaperones and teachers are required to remain with students at all times, and are responsible for student behavior. Additional chaperones are allowed to participate as space allows.

What ages and how many students can be accommodated?

NCR Shipboard runs programs for students in grades 3 and up. We can accommodate up to 30 students and 2 chaperones per boat trip.

Do the students wear life jackets?

All passengers under the age of 18 are required to wear life jackets. The only exception is during very hot weather when the heat index would make it more dangerous for the child to be in a very warm life jacket. This decision is not made lightly and our captains will always consult with a teacher or chaperone before permitting students to remove life jackets. Adults are always offering life jackets, but they are not required.

What if a student becomes seasick? What if they've never been on a boat and we don't know how they will react?

As we tell students who ask us this – we're on a river, who's ever heard of getting river sick? In all seriousness we realize that people react differently to each boating experience. The rivers that we operate on are generally calm bodies of water and seasickness is not typically an issue. As long as a student eats breakfast they should be alright. If a student is feeling ill we'll usually give them some crackers and water, give them a few minutes to compose themselves and then get them right back into the program. Generally speaking the students are too busy learning and having fun to focus or even acknowledge a queasy stomach.

What if a student has severe allergies or needs medical attention?

Safety is our number one priority. Our staff are all Wilderness First Aid and CPR trained. While the typical injuries we deal with are splinters and sunburn we are well equipped and ready for anything. The boats all have extensive first aid equipment aboard. If the injury is minor we will communicate with the teacher about the situation. If something major occurs we will handle it in the most logical manner and are not at all reluctant to call in the US Coast Guard, or Marine Police for assistance. Additionally we would of course be in touch with the student's family. It is important that you provide all requested medical information for your student so we are well informed in the event of an emergency.

Please let us know about allergies ahead of time. If the student carries an epi-pen, please be sure to send it along with him or her. Our crew is all trained in administering epi-pens in the event of a life-threatening emergency. Folks who have shellfish allergies are still able to participate in our programs, we just make sure they do not handle the marine life.

Where are you located?

Our boat is docked at The Yards Marina, located on the Southeast waterfront in Washington, DC.

How do we get there?

Bus Charter: Buses should be directed to The Yards Marina located at 1492 4th St. SE, Washington, DC 20003. Students can be dropped off on the corner of 4th St. SE and Water St. SE. We will meet you at the curb. Directions will be provided in your confirmation packet.

Metro Rail/Bus: The Navy Yard-Ballpark metro stop on the Green line is only a ten minute walk from The Yards Marina. Walk on M St. SE towards 4th St. SE (Harris Teeter). Turn right onto 4th St. SE and head towards the water. A crewmember will greet you at the corner of 4th St. SE and Water St. SE and escort you to the boat.

Is there time for lunch?

On full day trips, we will take a break for lunch in the middle of the day. Please remind your students to bring a lunch on the day of your trip. For half-day trips, students may eat lunch before or after the trip in an area adjacent to the marina.

What happens on rainy / cold days?

Our boat trips run rain or shine! Students should dress appropriately. On colder days, students should be prepared to be outside by dressing in layers and bringing hats and gloves. In the event of school closings due to inclement weather or extreme weather forecasts, we will work with you to reschedule the program.

What if I need to cancel?

Programs cancelled more than a month in advance of the event date will be given a 100% refund. Programs cancelled less than a month in advance of the event date will not be refunded their deposit fee. Programs cancelled less than two weeks in advance of the event date will not be refunded.

If you have further booking or trip preparation questions, please email the LCF-NCR Shipboard [office](#).

Rev: 11/2017